# , VERTRAG ÜBER DIE INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT AUF DEM GEBIET DES PATENTWESE

## **PCT**

### INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT

(Artikel 36 und Regel 70 PCT)

REC'D 0 3 JAN 2005

**PCT** 

**WIPO** 

Aktenzeichen des Anmelders oder Anwalts B02/0590PC /mtz	WEITERES VORGEHEN slehe Mitteilung über die Übersendung des Internationalen vorläufigen Prüfungsberichts (Formblatt PCT/IPEA/416)			
Internationales Aktenzelchen PCT/EP 03/10632	Internationales Anmeldedatum (Tag/Monat 24.09,2003	Wahr) Prioritätsdatum (TagMonatWahr) 26.09.2002		
Internationale Patentidassifikation (IPK) oder nationale Klassifikation und IPK D06P1/52				
Anmelder BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT				
<ol> <li>Dieser internationale vorläufige Prüfungsbericht wurde von der mit der internationalen vorläufigen Prüfung beauftragten Behörde erstellt und wird dem Anmelder gemäß Artikel 36 übermittelt.</li> </ol>				
2. Dieser BERICHT umfaßt insgesa	mt 7 Blätter einschließlich dieses Deckt	blatts.		
und/oder Zeichnungen, die	und/oder Zeichnungen, die geändert wurden und diesem Bericht zugrunde liegen, und/oder Blätter mit vor dieser Behörde vorgenommenen Berichtigungen (siehe Regel 70.16 und Abschnitt 607 der Verwaltungsrichtlinien zum			
Diese Anlagen umfassen insgesa	amt 3 Blätter.			
3. Dieser Bericht enthält Angaben z	3. Dieser Bericht enthält Angaben zu folgenden Punkten:			
I 🖾 Grundlage des Besch	I X Grundlage des Bescheids			
II □ Priorität				
III   Keine Erstellung eine	s Gutachtens über Neuheit, erfinderisch	e Tätigkeit und gewerbliche Anwendbarkeit		
IV				
V 🛭 Begründete Feststellt gewerblichen Anwend				
VI 🗆 Bestimmte angeführte	e Unterlagen			
VII 🔲 Bestimmte Mängel de	er internationalen Anmeldung			
VIII Bestimmte Bemerkur	VIII Bestimmte Bemerkungen zur internationalen Anmeldung			
Datum der Einreichung des Antrags Datum der Fertigstellung dieses Berichts				
23.04.2004	30.12.2004	30.12.2004		
Name und Postanschrift der mit der interna beauftragten Behörde	ationalen Prüfung Bevollmächtigte	er Bediensteter		
Europäisches Patentamt - P NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays	Bas Fiocco, M	S. CHAMPS		
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## INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT

Internationales Aktenzeichen PCT/EP 03/10632

<ol> <li>Grundlage des Bericht</li> </ol>
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 Hinsichtlich der Bestandteile der internationalen Anmeldung (Ersatzblätter, die dem Anmeldeamt auf eine Aufforderung nach Artikel 14 hin vorgelegt wurden, gelten im Rahmen dieses Berichts als "ursprünglich eingereicht" und sind ihm nicht beigefügt, weil sie keine Änderungen enthalten (Regeln 70.16 und 70.17)):

	Bes	schreibung, Seiten			
	1-1	5	in der ursprünglich eingereichten Fassung		
	An	sprüche, Nr.			
	1-1	0	eingegangen am 05.10.2004 mit Schreiben vom 04.10.2004		
2.	ule	internationale Anmei	e: Alle vorstehend genannten Bestandteile standen der Behörde in der Sprache, in delung eingereicht worden ist, zur Verfügung oder wurden in dieser eingereicht, sofe Its anderes angegeben ist.	der rn	
	Die eing	Die Bestandteile standen der Behörde in der Sprache: zur Verfügung bzw. wurden in dieser Sprache eingereicht; dabei handelt es sich um:			
		die Sprache der Übe (nach Regel 23.1(b)	ersetzung, die für die Zwecke der internationalen Recherche eingereicht worden ist )).		
		die Veröffentlichung	ssprache der internationalen Anmeldung (nach Regel 48.3(b)).		
		die Sprache der Übe worden ist (nach Re	ersetzung, die für die Zwecke der internationalen vorläufigen Prüfung eingereicht egel 55.2 und/oder 55.3).		
3.	Hin: inte	sichtlich der in der int rnationale vorläufige	ternationalen Anmeldung offenbarten <b>Nucleotid- und/oder Aminosäuresequenz</b> is Prūfung auf der Grundlage des Sequenzprotokolls durchgeführt worden, das:	st die	
$\square$ in der internationalen Anmeldung in schriftlic			n Anmeldung in schriftlicher Form enthalten ist.		
		zusammen mit der ir	nternationalen Anmeldung in computerlesbarer Form eingereicht worden ist.		
		bei der Behörde nac	chträglich in schriftlicher Form eingereicht worden ist.		
		Die Erklärung, daß das nachträglich eingereichte schriftliche Sequenzprotokoll nicht über den Offenbarungsgehalt der internationalen Anmeldung im Anmeldezeitpunkt hinausgeht, wurde vorgelegt.			
_		Die Erklärung, daß d	die in computerlesbarer Form erfassten Informationen dem schriftlichen ntsprechen, wurde vorgelegt.		
4.	Auf	grund der Änderunge	en sind folgende Unterlagen fortgefallen:		
		Beschreibung,	Seiten:		
		Ansprüche,	Nr.:		
		Zeichnungen,	Blatt:		
5.		angegebenen Grund	ne Berücksichtigung (von einigen) der Änderungen erstellt worden, da diese aus de den nach Auffassung der Behörde über den Offenbarungsgehalt in der ursprünglich ıng hinausgehen (Regel 70.2(c)).	∍n	
		(Auf Ersatzblätter, di beizufügen.)	lie solche Änderungen enthalten, ist unter Punkt 1 hinzuweisen; sie sind diesem Ber	richt	

# INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT

Internationales Aktenzeichen PCT/EP 03/10632

- 6. Etwaige zusätzliche Bemerkungen:
- V. Begründete Feststellung nach Artikel 35(2) hinsichtlich der Neuheit, der erfinderischen Tätigkeit und der gewerblichen Anwendbarkeit; Unterlagen und Erklärungen zur Stützung dieser Feststellung

1. Feststellung

Neuheit (N)

Ja: Ansprüche 1-10

Nein: Ansprüche

Erfinderische Tätigkeit (IS)

Ja: Ansprüche 1-10

Nein: Ansprüche

Gewerbliche Anwendbarkeit (IA)

Ja: Ansprüche: 1-10

Nein: Ansprüche:

2. Unterlagen und Erklärungen:

siehe Beiblatt

### INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT - BEIBLATT



Begründete Feststellung hinsichtlich der Neuheit, der erfinderischen Tätigkeit und der gewerblichen Anwendbarkeit; Unterlagen und Erklärungen zur Stützung dieser **Feststellung** 

Es wird auf die folgenden Dokumente verwiesen: 1

D1: EP-A-0 896 883 (DAICEL CHEM) 17. Februar 1999 (1999-02-17)

D4: WO 02/38645 A (THETFORD DEAN; AVECIA LTD (GB); BARNETT STUART (GB)) 16. Mai 2002 (2002-05-16)

#### **UNABHÄNGIGER ANSPRUCH 1** 2

Das Dokument D1 wird als nächstliegender Stand der Technik gegenüber dem Gegenstand des Anspruchs 1 angesehen. Es offenbart (vgl. Absatz [0020] und Beispiele) wässrige Vorbehandlungsflotten, die polykationische Verbindungen und Wasser enthalten.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 1 unterscheidet sich daher von den bekannten Flotten dadurch, dass sie weiter einen oder mehrere Assoziativverdicker der Formel (I), (II) und/oder (III) enthalten.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 1 ist somit neu (Artikel 33(2) PCT).

Die mit der vorliegenden Erfindung zu lösende Aufgabe kann somit darin gesehen werden, Vorbehandlungsflotten zu finden, die den Tintenstand der vorbehandelten textilen Substraten verbessern.

Die in Anspruch 1 der vorliegenden Anmeldung für diese Aufgabe vorgeschlagene Lösung beruht aus den folgenden Gründen auf einer erfinderischen Tätigkeit (Artikel 33(3) PCT): obwohl in D1 angedeutet wird (vgl. Absatz [62]), dass ein Verdicker der Vorbehandlungsflotte zugesetzt werden kann, würde es für den Fachmann nicht naheliegend sein, einen Assoziativverdicker der Formel (I), (II) und/oder (III) auszuwählen. Assoziativverdicker der Formel (I), (II) und/oder (III) sind in D4 offenbart. Es ist aber in D4 nicht vorgesehen, sie in Vorbehandlungsflotten zur Vorbereitung von textilen Substraten zu verwenden.

### INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT - BEIBLATT

ABHÄNGIGE ANSPRÜCHE 2-6 3

Die Ansprüche 2-6 sind vom Anspruch 1 abhängig und erfüllen damit ebenfalls die Erfordernisse des PCT in bezug auf Neuheit und erfinderische Tätigkeit.

**UNABHÄNGIGER ANSPRUCH 7** 4

Das Dokument D1 wird als nächstliegender Stand der Technik gegenüber dem Gegenstand des Anspruchs 7 angesehen. Es offenbart (vgl. Absatz [0020] und Beispiele) ein Vorbehandlungsmittel, das eine polykationische Verbindung enthält.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 7 unterscheidet sich daher von dem bekannten Mittel dadurch, dass es weiter einen oder mehrere Assoziativverdicker der Formel (I), (II) und/oder (III) enthält.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 7 ist somit neu (Artikel 33(2) PCT).

Die mit der vorliegenden Erfindung zu lösende Aufgabe kann somit darin gesehen werden, ein Vorbehandlungsmittel zu finden, das den Tintenstand der vorbehandelten textilen Substraten verbessert.

Aus den in Absatz 2 erwähnten Gründen beruht der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 7 auf einer erfinderischen Tätigkeit (Artikel 33(3) PCT).

**UNABHÄNGIGER ANSPRUCH 8** 5

Das Dokument D1 wird als nächstliegender Stand der Technik gegenüber dem Gegenstand des Anspruchs 8 angesehen. Es offenbart (vgl. Beispiele) ein Verfahren zur Vorbereitung eines textilen Substrats für den Ink-Jet-Druck, umfassend die Auftragung einer wässrigen Vorbehandlungsflotte auf das textile Substrat und anschließende Trocknung des Substrats.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 8 unterscheidet sich daher von dem bekannten Verfahren dadurch, dass die Vorbehandlungsflotte einen oder mehrere Assoziativverdicker der Formel (I), (II) und/oder (III) enthält.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 8 ist somit neu (Artikel 33(2) PCT).

Die mit der vorliegenden Erfindung zu lösende Aufgabe kann somit darin gesehen werden, ein Verfahren zur Vorbereitung eines textilen Substrats für den Ink-Jet-Druck zu finden, durch das der Tintenstand der vorbehandelten textilen Substrate verbessert wird.

Aus den in Absatz 2 erwähnten Gründen beruht der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 8 auf einer erfinderischen Tätigkeit (Artikel 33(3) PCT).

#### **UNABHÄNGIGER ANSPRUCH 9** 6

Das Dokument D1 wird als nächstliegender Stand der Technik gegenüber dem Gegenstand des Anspruchs 9 angesehen. Es offenbart (vgl. Beispiele) ein Verfahren zum Bedrucken eines textilen Substrats nach dem Ink-Jet-Verfahren, umfassend die Auftragung einer wässrigen Vorbehandlungsflotte auf das textile Substrat, die Trocknung des Substrats und das Bedrucken des Substrats nach dem Ink-Jet-Verfahren.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 9 unterscheidet sich daher von dem bekannten Verfahren dadurch, dass die Vorbehandlungsflotte einen oder mehrere Assoziativverdicker der Formel (I), (II) und/oder (III) enthält.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 9 ist somit neu (Artikel 33(2) PCT).

Die mit der vorliegenden Erfindung zu lösende Aufgabe kann somit darin gesehen werden, ein Verfahren zum Bedrucken eines textilen Substrats nach dem Ink-Jet-Verfahren zu finden, durch das der Tintenstand der bedruckten textilen Substrate verbessert wird.

Aus den in Absatz 2 erwähnten Gründen beruht der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 9 auf einer erfinderischen Tätigkeit (Artikel 33(3) PCT).

#### **UNABHÄNGIGER ANSPRUCH 10** 7

Das Dokument D1 wird als nächstliegender Stand der Technik gegenüber dem Gegenstand des Anspruchs 10 angesehen. Es offenbart (vgl. Beispiele) ein bedrucktes textiles Substrat, von dem sich der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 10 dadurch unterscheidet, dass das Substrat einen oder mehrere Assoziativverdicker

# INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT - BEIBLATT

Internationales Aktenzeichen PCT/EP 03/10632

der Formel (I), (II) und/oder (III) aufweist.

Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 10 ist somit neu (Artikel 33(2) PCT).

Die mit der vorliegenden Erfindung zu lösende Aufgabe kann somit darin gesehen werden, ein bedrucktes textiles Substrat zur Verfügung zu stellen, das einen verbesserten Tintenstand aufweist.

Aus den in Absatz 2 erwähnten Gründen beruht der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 10 auf einer erfinderischen Tätigkeit (Artikel 33(3) PCT).

Formblatt PCT/Beiblatt/409 (Blatt 4) (EPA-April 1997)

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### Patentansprüche

- 5 Wässrige Vorbehandlungsflotte zur Vorbereitung von textilen Substraten für den 1. Ink-Jet-Druck enthaltend (A) eine oder mehrere polykationische Verbindungen, **(B)** einen oder mehrere Assoziativverdicker der allgemeinen Formel (I), (II) 10 und/oder (III)  $U-[-T-(M)_y-]_x-U$  (1)  $U-(M)_v-U$  (II) 15 U-T-U **(III)** worin bedeuten: (M)<sub>y</sub> eine von Polyalkylenether abgeleitete Einheit, wobei M eine einzelne 20 Alkylenether-Einheit bedeutet und y von 1 bis 100 000 sein kann, T, gleich oder verschieden, eine von einem Diisocyanat abgeleitete Einheit, x eine Zahl von im Mittel 1 bis 500, U, gleich oder verschieden, eine von aliphatischen oder aromatischen Alkoholen, aLkoxylierten Alkoholen, Thiolen, Aminen oder Carbonsäuren abge-25 leitete Einheit mit mindestens 4 C-Atomen; gegebenenfalls übliche Additive, (C) (D) Wasser. 2. Wässrige Vorbehandlungsflotte nach Anspruch 1, enthaltend als polykationische 30 Verbindungen (A) Polymere oder Copolymere von Diallyldialkylammonium-Monomeren. 3. Wässrige Vorbehandlungsflotte nach Anspruch 2, enthaltend als polykationische
  - Verbindungen (A) Diallyldimethylammoniumchlorid-Homopolymer.
  - 4. Wässrige Vorbehandlungsflotte nach Anspruch 3, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die Verbindungen der allgemeinen Formel (I) erhältlich sind aus



- (i) Polyetherdiolen,
- (ii) Diisocyanaten und
- (iii) Verbindungen der allgemeinen Formel R-OH, R-SH, R-NH<sub>2</sub>, RR'NH oder R-COOH, wobei R, R' ein hydrophober aliphatischer oder aromtaischer Rest mit mindestens 4 C-Atomen ist und R-OH auch alkoxyliert sein kann, sowie weiteren zur Ausbildung einer Urethan-, Thiourethan- oder Harnstoffbindung befähigten Derivaten dieser Verbindungen,

die Verbindungen der Formel (II) erhältlich sind aus

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- (i) Polyetherdiolen mit
- (iv) Verbindungen der allgemeinen Formel R-OH oder R-COOH, wobei R ein hydrophober aliphatischer oder aromatischer Rest mit mindestens 4 C-Atomen ist und R-OH auch alkoxyliert sein kann, sowie weiteren zur Ausbildung einer Ether- oder Esterbindung befähigten Derivaten dieser Verbindungen, und

die Verbindungen der Formel (III) aus den Verbindungen (ii) und (iii) erhältlich sind.

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- 5. Wässrige Vorbehandlungsflotte nach Anspruch 3 oder 4, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die Polyetherdiole (ii) ausgewählt sind aus der Gruppe bestehend aus Polyethylenglykol, Polypropylenglykol und Polytetrahydrofuran und Copolymeren aus Ethylenoxid und Propylenoxid oder Butylenoxid und Terpolymeren aus Ethylenoxid und Propylenoxid und Butylenoxid.
- 6. Wässrige Vorbehandlungsflotte nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 5, enthaltend
  - (a) 0,1 bis 50 Gew.-% polykationische Verbindungen (A),
  - (b) 0,1 bis 50 Gew.-% Verdicker (B),

30 (c)

- 0 bis 30 Gew.-% übliche Additive (C), und
- (d) Wasser zur Ergänzung auf 100 Gew.-%.
- 7. Vorbehandlungsmittel, enthaltend die Komponenten (A), (B) und gegebenenfalls (C), wie in den Ansprüchen 1 bis 5 definiert.

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8. Verfahren zur Vorbereitung eines textilen Substrats für den Ink-Jet-Druck, umfassend die Auftragung der wässrigen Vorbehandlungsflotte nach einem der Ansprü-

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04.10.2004





che 1 bis 6 auf das textile Substrat und die anschließende Trocknung des imprägnierten textilen Substrats.

- 9. Verfahren zum Bedrucken eines textilen Substrats nach dem Ink-Jet-Verfahren, umfassend die Auftragung der wässrigen Vorbehandlungsflotte nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 6, die Trocknung des imprägnierten textilen Substrats und das Bedrucken des imprägnierten textilen Substrats nach dem Ink-Jet-Verfahren.
- 10. Das nach dem Verfahren gemäß Anspruch 9 erhältliche bedruckte textile Substrat.

05-10-2004

RECOPERATO 24 MAR 2005



## ATENT COOPERATION TREATY



## **PCT**

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B02/0590PC	FOR FURTHER AC	ER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)		
International application No. PCT/EP2003/010632	International filing date 24 September 200	• •	Priority date (day/month/year) 26 September 2002 (26.09.2002)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC D06P 1/52				
Applicant	BASF AKTIENGE	ESELLSCHAFT		
<ol> <li>This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</li> <li>This REPORT consists of a total of</li></ol>				
Basis of the report    Priority   Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability   Value   Lack of unity of invention   Lack of unity of invention   Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement   VII   Certain documents cited   Certain defects in the international application   VIII   Certain observations on the international application   Certain observations   Certain observ				
Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion of this report		
23 April 2004 (23.04.	2004)	30 December 2004 (30.12.2004)  Authorized officer		
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP  Facsimile No.		Telephone No.		



### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

Internal application No.
PCT/EP2003/010632

pages	I. Basis of the report			
the description:  pages			1. V	
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2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in white international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  These elements were available or furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).  the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).  the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).  the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 or 55.3).  3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international application in written form.  filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.  furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.  The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in international application as filed has been furnished.  The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing been furnished.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:  the description, pages  the claims, Nos.  the drawings, sheets/fig  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**  *Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referring in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 2 in the co	, as originally filed		i	
2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language whice	, filed with the demand		ĺ	
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furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.  furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.  The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in international application as filed has been furnished.  The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing been furnished.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:  the description, pages the claims, Nos. the drawings, sheets/fig  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**  * Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 7).			Ļ	
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·	d are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16	in this repor and 70.17).	in	
** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.	**A			

### INTERNATIONAL PRED IN INARY EXAMINATION REPORT

In	ional	application No.
PCT	'EP	03/10632

v.	Reasoned statement under Article 3 citations and explanations supporting	5(2) with regard to no ag such statement	ovelty, inventive step or industrial applica	bility;
1.	Statement			·
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-10	YES
		Claims		NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-10	YES
		Claims		NO ·
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
		Claims		NO

### 2. Citations and explanations

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: EP-A-0 896 883 (DAICEL CHEM) 17 February 1999 (1999-02-17)

D4: WO 02/38645 A (THETFORD DEAN; AVECIA LTD (GB);
BARNETT STUART (GB)) 16 May 2002 (2002-05-16)

#### 2. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

Document D1 is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. It discloses (cf. paragraph [0020] and examples) aqueous pretreatment baths containing polycationic compounds and water.

The subject matter of claim 1 thus differs from the known baths in that the claimed baths also include one or more associative thickeners of the formula (I), (II) and/or (III).

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can thus be seen as that of providing pretreatment baths that improve the ink level of the pretreated textile substrates. The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons: although document D1 implies (cf. paragraph [0062]) that a thickener can be added to the pretreatment bath, it would not be obvious for a person skilled in the art to select an associative thickener of formula (I), (II) and/or (III). Associative thickeners of formula (I), (II) and/or (III) are disclosed in document D4. However, D4 does not disclose their use in pretreatment baths for preparing textile substrates.

### 3. DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-6

Claims 2-6 are dependent upon claim 1 and thus likewise satisfy the PCT requirements with respect to novelty and inventive step.

#### 4. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 7

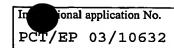
Document D1 is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 7. It discloses (cf. paragraph [0020] and examples) a pretreatment agent containing a polycationic compound.

The subject matter of claim 7 thus differs from the known agent in that the claimed agent also includes one or more associative thickeners of the formula (I), (II) and/or (III).

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 7 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can thus be seen as that of providing a pretreatment agent that improves the ink level of the pretreated textile substrates.

### INTERNATIONAL PRESENTANTY EXAMINATION REPORT



The subject matter of claim 7 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the reasons explained under point 2, above.

#### 5. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 8

Document D1 is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 8. It discloses (cf. examples) a method for preparing a textile substrate for ink jet printing, comprising the application of an aqueous pretreatment bath onto the textile substrate and the subsequent drying of the substrate.

The subject matter of claim 8 thus differs from the known agent in that the pretreatment bath contains one or more associative thickeners of the formula (I), (II) and/or (III).

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 8 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can thus be seen as that of providing a method for pretreating a textile substrate for ink jet printing that improves the ink level of the pretreated textile substrates.

The subject matter of claim 8 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the reasons explained under point 2, above.

#### 6. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 9

Document **D1** is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 9. It discloses (cf. examples) a method of printing on a textile substrate by the ink jet method, wherein an aqueous pretreatment bath is

applied onto the textile substrate, the substrate is dried and the substrate is printed upon by the ink jet method.

The subject matter of claim 9 thus differs from the known agent in that the pretreatment bath contains one or more associative thickeners of the formula (I), (II) and/or (III).

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 9 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can thus be seen as that of providing a method of printing upon a textile substrate by the ink jet printing method that improves the ink level of the pretreated textile substrates.

The subject matter of claim 9 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the reasons explained under point 2, above.

### 7. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 10

Document D1 is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 10. It discloses (cf. examples) a printed textile substrate from which the subject matter of claim 10 differs in that said substrate contains one or more associative thickeners of the formula (I), (II) and/or (III).

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 10 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can thus be seen as that of providing a printed textile substrate having an improved ink level.

The subject matter of claim 10 involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the reasons explained under point 2, above.